

weight was estimated to be approximately 25 tons. The following measurements of the specimen were taken:

Total length (tip of lower jaw to tip of flukes)	.. 13.50 m.
Length from base of flipper to tip of lower jaw	.. 4.00 "
Length of flipper	.. 1.55 "
Ratio of flipper length to total length	.. 1:9:1
Total number of ventral grooves	.. 67

The ventral grooves extended far behind the flipper reaching as far as the anal region.

The exact coloration could not be ascertained because of the decomposed nature of the specimen. However, on the shoulder region the skin was dark grey whereas on the ventral side near the flippers it was white. Flippers were pale black in colour and the frayed baleen plates were blackish grey and fluke greyish blue in colour. Nasal opening was triangular.

The stomach was everted indicating that the specimen had vomited prior to death. The sex could not be determined. However, the specimen appeared to be immature.

The ratio of flipper length to the total length of the specimen was 1:9 which identifies it as *Balaenoptera physalus*.

All the four specimens are approximately of the same length which suggests that they belong to the same year class which probably migrate in the cold season from November to April along the coast.

The author is thankful to Dr. P. V. Dehadroi, Scientist, N.I.O. Panaji for critically going through the manuscript.

RESEARCH LABORATORY,
DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES,
PANAJI, GOA,
May 1, 1970.

RAJINDER M. DHAWAN

5. RECORD OF THE HIMALAYAN MONAL *LOPHOPHORUS IMPEJANUS* (LATHAM) IN BURMA

(With a map)

Three rare pheasants, two cocks and a hen arrived at the Zoological Gardens, Rangoon, from Putao on 27 June 1969. They were identified as the Himalayan Monal *Lophophorus impejanus*. No mention of the presence of this monal in Burma, is made in Smythies BIRDS OF BURMA. I sent photographs to Mr. Philip Wayre, Hon.

Director, The Ornamental Pheasant Trust, England, and author of A GUIDE TO THE PHEASANTS OF THE WORLD and he confirmed the identification. The three Monals were trapped on Hpungan Pass—Latitude 27° 30', Longitude 96° 48', 3072 metres (Map). Extracts from a letter dated 9 February 1970, which I received from Mr. Wayre, are quoted below.

'I am quite sure that this constitutes an extension of this bird's range, the eastern limit of which was previously believed to be the Mishmi Hills. I have checked all the literature and can find no reference to its occurrence east of those hills other than in the mountains of south-western Sikang.



The distribution according to Vaurie BIRDS OF THE PALAEARCTIC FAUNA is Eastern Afghanistan (Nuristan and Safed Koh) and North West Frontier Province, eastward through the Himalayas to Bhutan and north-eastern Assam (Mishmi Hills) and neighbouring southern Tibet to south-western Sikang. [Pome and southern Chamdo to the valleys of Po Yigrong and Po Tsangpo, to at least the region of Showa Dzong, or to about 95° 30' E. long.].

25, INYA MYAING ROAD,
UNIVERSITY P.O.,
RANGOON,
February 20, 1970.

TUN YIN

6. INTERESTING EAGLES IN WESTERN INDIA

While scanning through my notes recently I found that I had somehow failed to report three occurrences of interesting eagles in Kutch. One of them was Pallas's Fishing Eagle *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* (Pallas), seen by me in the cold weather of 1947-48 near Ganga Nāl (a tidal creek 3-4 miles west of Mandvi).

The second and the most interesting discovery was that of the White-tailed Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* (Linnaeus) in 1949-50 near Mundra (about 30 miles south of Bhuj). A solitary individual was sitting on an earthen mound when I saw it while trying to catch up with and collect a Houbara Bustard *Chlamydotis undulata macqueenii* (J. E. Gray) wounded by me. I do not remember whether I bagged the Houbara, but I now certainly regret my folly in not at once trying to collect the eagle at that time for only a single record of it in India is apparently made (Ali & Ripley, HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN, Vol. 1, page 286). When I went back to the place where I had seen this extremely rare sea eagle it had disappeared and I failed to spot it again.

In December 1966 I saw an Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca* Savigny. This too is a rare visitor in Kutch having been recorded by Sir Geoffrey Archer, but others, including the Sálím Ali¹ survey, have not come across it (Ali, BIRDS OF KUTCH, vide Appendix B—page 172).

¹ Reported from Pung Bet, Little Rann and Kaira Dist. in 'The Birds of Gujarat', JBNHS 52 : 397, by Sálím Ali—Eds.